arrangement has fallen into disuse, Government agents should be appointed as a compulsory measure.

Reply of Government.—The existing rules do provide for the appointment of an agent in such cases. Orders will be issued for their stricter enforcement.

Subject No. 139.
Sanitation etc., in alienated villages.

Mr.. Sankariah of Heggaddevankote.

Summary of discussion.—At present, inamdars see only to their income from their villages without considering the interests of their raiyats. A regulation may be introduced to compel inamdars to see to the interests of their raiyats in the way of improving the sanitation of alienated villages and the annual up-keep of village tanks and the like, as is done by Government in respect of the raiyats residing in Government villages.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

Subject No. 140.
Local cess of Inam villages.

Messrs. Madappa of Mysore Taluk and Srirangachar of T.Narsipur.

Summary of discussion.—The right of inamdars to collect certain miscellaneous taxes in inam, jodi and kayamgutta villages under the terms of their sanads, was done away with under Government orders. The large realizations of local cess more than compensate the loss of revenue accruing to Government by the abolition of the *chillarbab*, and such cesses levied from inam villages are also credited to Government. The local cess levied in alienated villages may be given over to the inamdars; if not, the *chillarbabs* abolished should be revived.

Reply of Government.—The local cess is levied for the common benefit of particular localities, and cannot be assigned as prayed for. The revival of the old abolished items of taxation in question cannot be permitted.

Subject No. 141.
Enquiry into the cause of poverty of garden owners.

Messrs. B. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL.B., B. Garudachar, B.A., B.L., C. Srinivasa Rao, Veerathegowda and Ramachendra Rao of Chikmagalur.

Koleroga to areca crop.

Mr. B. Garudachar of Shimoga.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) A commission may be appointed to enquire into the causes that have reduced the owners of arecanut gardens in the malnad to a miserable condition, notwithstanding the partial remission of kandayam allowed.

(*b*) The rot disease, otherwise called Koleroga, that has been destroying the areca gardens, has been steadily growing and spreading so as to create more havoc each year and thereby prostrate the poor garden owners who are very heavily taxed with assessment. This has been creating great anxiety in their minds, and they are seriously thinking of giving up garden cultivation. The Government may, with the help of the Agricultural Chemist, find out a suitable and cheap remedy to stamp out the disease, or if this is not possible, kindly make up their mind to reduce the assessment on that score.

(*c*) Koleroga is increasing, and steps should be taken early to find a remedy.

Reply of Government.—The Agricultural Chemist says he has already made personal investigations, and is ready

to talk over the matter with persons interested. Let them consult him and follow his advice.

Subject No. 142.

Abolition of Sayer duty in the malnad and the maidan.

Messrs. Amble Annaiya Pandit and D. Narasimhaiya of Chamrajnagar, Srinivasamurti of Gorur and Singarachar of Kunigal Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Garden holders now pay garden assessment in addition to sayer duties on arecanut crop in their gardens, besides local cess. These payments bear heavily on the garden proprietors. Sayer on arecanut exists nowhere except in Mysore, and is unknown in British Territory. This duty may be abolished. Different rates of duty may, at least, be levied for superior and inferior supari, if the levy of duty cannot absolutely be done away with.

(*b*) Much inconvenience is caused to the raiyats by the village officers in the levy of Sayer duty on arecanut grown in villages. This duty should be done away with.

(*c*) The gardens in the maidan districts are highly assessed. They require less water than wet lands. The superior produce of the gardens is due entirely to the greater labour and the high expense incurred by the raiyats. The garden lands should not therefore be subjected to a higher assessment than wet lands. Both kinds of land being dependent on the supply of irrigation afforded to them, there is no reason why gardens should pay heavier assessment. In addition to the high assessment, the arecanut crop is subjected to a sayer duty of twelve annas and nine pies per maund. This duty may be abolished by adding a small sum to the garden assessment, by which the annoyance, the areca garden holders are subjected to by the present system of estimating the produce for levy of sayer duty, would be removed.

Mr. Annaiya Pandit, speaking from the point of view of maidan owners, suggested that the assessment should be calculated on the basis of the last ten years' produce, and collected with the kandayam; if necessary, it might be revised every five years. At present it was very inconvenient to have to wait for the arrival of the sayer officials for measuring the quantity, as by that time the arecanuts might become over-ripe. The insisting of the Patel's chit should be done away with as this places owners at the Patel's mercy. Mr. Sitaramaiya, on the other hand, said the adoption of averages was bad.

(*d*) If Government will undergo a loss by the abolition of the sayer duty altogether, it is prayed that some concession may be shown either in respect of the land revenue or on the produce of the arecanut trees after taking into consideration the cost of the Sayer establishment to Government.

(*e*) Sayer duty creates an advantage in favour of British Indian garden-owners. The raiyats have been reduced to poverty. Either the sayer may be abolished, or kandayam reduced.

Reply of Government.—Noted.